

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-59. (Cancelled)

60. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer of generation n composed of:

- a central core § of valence m;
- optionally, generation chains branching around the core;
- an intermediate chain at the end of each bond around the core or at the end of each generation chain, where appropriate; and
- a terminal group at the end of each intermediate chain,

wherein m represents an integer from 3 to 8; n represents an integer from 0 to 12,

the intermediate chains, which are identical or different, are represented by formula

-J-K-L- (C2) or -L"- (C2')

wherein

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-;

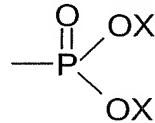
K represents an aryl, heteroaryl or alkyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom or by -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, an -alkyl radical, an -aryl radical, or an -aralkyl radical;

L represents a hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more heteroatoms and/or optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -Oalkyl; and

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or an -alkyl, -aryl, or -aralkyl radical; and

L" represents an -alkyl- chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -Oalkyl,

where R and R', which may be identical or different, each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical, an aryl radical or an -aralkyl radical; and further wherein the terminal group is composed of the group of formula:



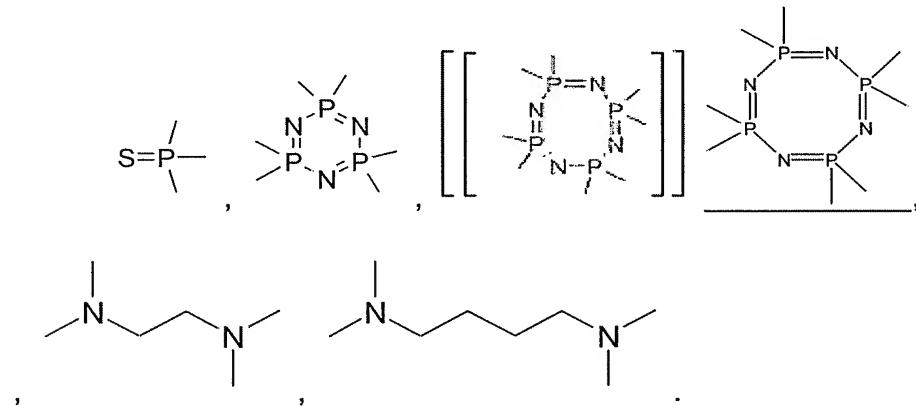
wherein each of the radicals X, which are identical or different, represents a radical -Me, -H and/or -M⁺, wherein M⁺ is a cation,

with the exception of the compound of formula:



61. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the central core contains at least one phosphorus atom.

62. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the central core is selected from the following groups:



63. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the central core has the formula:



64. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, having a DAB-AM, PAMAM, or PMMH structure.

65. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein M^+ represents the cation of an element of group IA, IIA, IIB or IIIA of the periodic table or M^+ represents $HNEt_3^+$.

66. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein M is selected from sodium and potassium atoms.

67. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein n is from 0 to 3.

68. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein m is selected from 3, 4 and 6.

69. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the generation chains are selected from linear and branched hydrocarbon chains having from 1 to 12 chain members and optionally being having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members optionally being selected from a heteroatom, [[a group]] an Aryl radical, a Heteroaryl radical, $>C=O$, and $>C=NR$, each chain member being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, $-NO_2$, $-NRR'$, -CN, $-CF_3$, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl, wherein

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom[[or a radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl]], an alkyl radical, an aryl radical or an -aralkyl radical.

70. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the generation chains, which are identical or different, are represented by the formula:

$-A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<$ (C1)

wherein:

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-;

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, selenium or tellurium atom or a radical =NR;

R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl; and

< represents the two bonds at the end of each generation chain.

71. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein A represents an oxygen atom.

72. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein B represents a phenyl ring optionally substituted by a halogen atom or by a radical NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl.

73. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein B represents an unsubstituted phenyl ring.

74. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein D represents a hydrogen atom.

75. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein E represents [[a]] an alkyl radical[[-Alkyl]].

76. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein G represents a sulfur atom.

77. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:

$-A'-(C=O)-N(R)-B'-N<$ (C1')

wherein

A' and B' each independently of the other represents [[a radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl,]] an alkyl radical, an alkenyl radical or an alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and

R and R' have the meanings defined in claim 60, which may be identical or different, each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical, an aryl radical or an aralkyl radical.

78. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the generation chains are represented by the formula:

$-A''-N<$ (C1'')

wherein

A'' represents a [[radical -Alkyl, -Alkenyl, or -Alkynyl]] an alkyl radical, an alkenyl radical or a alkynyl radical, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -Alkyl, -Hal, -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl; and wherein R and R', which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom or a radical -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl an -alkyl radical, an -aryl radical, or an -aralkyl radical.

79. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, wherein the generation chains are identical.

80. (Cancelled)

81. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 70, wherein J represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR- and K represents an -aryl-, -heteroaryl-, or -alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -alkyl, -aryl, or -aralkyl radical are equal to A and B, respectively.

82. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein J represents an oxygen atom.

83. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein K represents a phenyl ring optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by [[a radical]] an -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, [-Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl]] an -alkyl radical, an -aryl radical, or an -aralkyl radical; where R and R', which may be identical or different, each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical, an aryl radical or an aralkyl radical..

84. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein K represents an unsubstituted phenyl ring.

85. (Previously Presented) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein L represents a radical -Alkyl-, -Alkenyl- or -Alkynyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -OAlkyl.

86. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein L represents [[a]] an alkenyl radical [[-Alkenyl-]] or [[a]] an alkyl radical [[-Alkyl-]], optionally substituted by a radical -OH .

87. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 80, wherein L represents [[a]] an alkyl radical [[-Alkyl-]] optionally substituted by [[a radical]] -OH.

88. (Cancelled)

89. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, which is represented by the formula (I):

$\$-\{A-B-C(D)=N-N(E)-(P(=G))<\}^n-[J-K-L-PO_3X_2]_2\}_m \quad (I)$

in which:

~~§, A, B, C, D, E, G, N, P, J, K, L, X, m, n, and < have the meanings defined above~~

§ represent a central core of valence m,

A represents an oxygen, sulfur or phosphorus atom or a radical -NR-,

B represents a radical -Aryl-, -Heteroaryl-, or -Alkyl-, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl,

C represents a carbon atom,

D and E, which are identical or different, each independently of the other represents a hydrogen atom, a radical -Alkyl, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl, each of which is optionally substituted by a Halogen atom or by a radical -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Alkyl, -Aryl, or -Aralkyl;

G represents a sulfur, oxygen, selenium or tellurium atom or a radical =NR,

J represents an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a radical -NR-,

K represents an -aryl- radical, a -heteroaryl- radical, or an -alkyl- radical, each of which is optionally substituted by a halogen atom or by -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, an -alkyl radical, an -aryl radical, or an -aralkyl radical,

L represents a hydrocarbon chain having from 1 to 6 chain members and optionally having one or more heteroatoms and/or optionally having one or more double or triple bonds, each of said chain members being optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -Oalkyl,

N represents a nitrogen atom,

P represents a phosphorus atom,

X, which are identical or different, represents a radical -Me, -H and/or -M⁺, wherein M⁺ is a cation.

m represents an integer from 3 to 8,

n represents an integer from 0 to 12, and

< represents the two bonds at the end of each generation chain.

90. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60, which is represented by the following formula (I-2):



in which:

~~S, A', B', C, N, P, X, L'', m, and n have the meanings defined above~~

S represent a central core of valence m,

A' and B' each independently of the other represents an alkyl radical, an alkenyl radical or an alkynyl radical, wherein said radicals may have one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -alkyl radicals, -Hal, -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -Oalkyl radicals, -aryl radicals, and -aralkyl radicals;

L'' represents an -alkyl- chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -Oalkyl;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

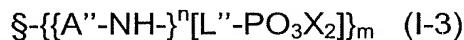
R and R', which may be identical or different, each independently represent a hydrogen atom, an alkyl radical, an aryl radical or an aralkyl radical.

X, which are identical or different, represents a radical -Me, -H and/or -M⁺, wherein M⁺ is a cation,

m represents an integer from 3 to 8, and

n represents an integer from 0 to 12.

91. (Currently Amended) A dendritic polymer according to claim 60 which is represented by the following formula (I-3):



in which:

~~S, A'', N, P, X, L'', m, and n have the meanings defined above~~

S represent a central core of valence m,

A'' represents an alkyl radical, an alkenyl radical or an alkynyl radical, optionally substituted with one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of -alkyl, -Hal, -NO₂, -NRR', -CN, -CF₃, -OH, -OAlkyl, -Aryl, and -Aralkyl;

L'' represents an -alkyl- chain having from 1 to 6 chain members, optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from -OH, -NRR', and -Oalkyl;

N represents a nitrogen atom;

P represents a phosphorus atom;

R represents a hydrogen atom, an -alkyl radical, an -aryl radical, or an -aralkyl radical;

R'

X, which are identical or different, represents a radical -Me, -H and/or -M⁺,
wherein M⁺ is a cation,

m represents an integer from 3 to 8, and

n represents an integer from 0 to 12.

92-118. (Withdrawn)